Australian Bureau of Statistics

1367.5 - Western Australian Statistical Indicators, Jun 2004

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 07/07/2004

MEDIA RELEASE

July 7, 2004 Embargoed: 11:30 AM (AEST) 125/2004

New analysis of water conservation by Western Australian households

A new analysis of water conservation by Western Australian (WA) households was released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, bringing together the latest information from a range of sources.

The article revealed that:

- The average amount of water flowing into WA's main public water supply dams has halved from 338 Gigalitre (GL)/year on average between 1911 and 1974, to an average of 167 GL/year between 1975 and 2001.
- Households were the second largest user of water in 2000-01 in WA after the Agriculture industry, accounting for 17% of total water consumption.
- WA households rely heavily on mains water to meet their needs. In March 2001, it was the main source of household water for bath, shower and washing water (95% of households), drinking water (84%) and garden water (77%).
- In October 2003, more than one-fifth (21%) of households reported using bore water and 8% used water from a rainwater tank, potentially reducing the demand on high quality mains water supplies.
- Less than two in five (38%) households had only water efficient shower heads installed in their dwelling in October 2003. An estimated 6 kilolitres (kL) of water per household per year can be conserved by using a water efficient, rather than normal flow, shower head.

Further information is in the June 2004 issue of **Western Australian Statistical Indicators** (cat. no. 1367.5).

Media note:

The estimates of water flowing into dams and potential water savings are based on Water Corporation data and are not based on ABS data.

1 kilolitre (kL) = One thousand litres, or a volume of approximately five 44-gallon drums, or one typical box trailer.

1 Gigalitre (GL) = One thousand million litres, or a volume of approximately 444 Olympic swimming pools.

This page last updated 9 October 2006

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence